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Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Pedro **Cardoso** (Brazil)

I. Introduction

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 15th to 18th, 21st, 23rd, 41st and 43rd to 45th meetings, on 14, 17, 18, 21 and 25 October and on 15, 18 and 21 November 2005. At its 15th to 18th meetings, it held a general discussion on the item. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/60/SR. 5-18, 21, 23, 41, and 43-45).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/60/175 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on children (A/60/207);

(c) Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (A/60/335 and Corr.1);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children (A/60/282).

4. At the 15th meeting, on 14 October, introductory statements were made by the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, and

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the Deputy Director of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (see A/C.3/60/SR.15).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee engaged in a question-and-answer session with the above-mentioned speakers, in which the delegations of Burundi, Colombia, Myanmar, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Sudan, Uganda, Mexico, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela took part (A/C.3/60/SR.15).

6. Also at the 15th meeting, the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children made an introductory statement (A/C.3/60/SR.15).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee engaged in a question-and-answer session with the independent expert, in which the delegations of Iraq, El Salvador, Egypt, Brazil and Mali took part (A/C.3/60/SR.15).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.18 and Rev.1

8. At the 21st meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Namibia, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Belarus, Belize, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mongolia and the Philippines, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The girl child" (A/C.3/60/L.18), which read as follows:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolution 58/156 of 22 December 2003 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,
>
> "*Reaffirming* the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,
>
> "*Recalling* all human rights instruments relevant to the rights of the child, in particular the girl child,
>
> "*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,
>
> "*Reaffirming also* the outcome document entitled 'A world fit for children' adopted by the General Assembly at its special session on children, on 10 May 2002,

"*Reaffirming further* all other relevant outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences relevant to the girl child, including: the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, on 27 June 2001; the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women; the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'; and the outcome documents of the recent five-year reviews of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,

"*Reaffirming* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,

"*Recognizing* the efforts of the international community to strengthen the standards for combating sexual abuse and exploitation, and in this regard taking note of the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and other policies and codes of conduct developed by the United Nations system to prevent and address such incidents,

"*Recognizing also* the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

"*Deeply concerned* about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, incidence of fistula, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

"*Deeply concerned also* that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and that their potential for full development is thus limited,

"*Concerned* that the girl child has furthermore become the victim of sexually transmitted diseases and increasingly of HIV, which have a serious impact on the quality of her life and leave her open to further discrimination,

"*Noting with concern* that the AIDS epidemic is affecting women and girls in increasing numbers,

"*Recognizing* that access to education for young people, especially girls, dramatically lowers their vulnerability to HIV infection,

"*Concerned* by the increasing number of child-headed households, particularly those headed by orphan girls, including those orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic,

"*Deeply concerned* that early childbearing, malnutrition and limited access to sexual and reproductive health as well as emergency obstetric care causes high levels of fistula and maternal mortality and morbidity,

"*Convinced* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

"1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

"2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

"3. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms;

"4. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum, in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration in this regard;

"5. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action, as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

"6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

"7. *Also urges* States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century' and the special session on children;

"8. *Urges* all States to promote gender equality and equal access to basic social services, such as education, nutrition, health care, including sexual and reproductive health care, vaccinations, and protection from diseases representing the major causes of mortality, and to mainstream a gender perspective in all development policies and programmes;

"9. *Urges* Governments to encourage men and boys to work with women and girls in the design of policies and programmes for men and boys aimed at gender equality and to foster the involvement of men and boys in gender mainstreaming efforts in order to ensure the improved design of all policies and programmes;

"10. *Urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced labour and acts of paedophilia, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

"11. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

"12. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child, and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

"13. *Urges* States to ensure that the right of children to express themselves and participate in all matters affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity, is fully and equally enjoyed by girls;

"14. *Recognizes* that a considerable number of children, including orphans, children living on the street, internally displaced and refugee children, children affected by trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation and children who are incarcerated, live without parental support, and in this regard urges States to take special measures to support such children and the institutions, facilities and services that care for them, and to build and strengthen children's abilities to protect themselves;

"15. *Urges* States to take appropriate measures to address the needs of orphan girls by implementing national policies and strategies to build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans and girls and boys infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including by providing appropriate counselling and

psychosocial support, and ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition and health and social services on an equal basis with other children; and to protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance;

"16. *Also urges* States to take special measures for the protection of girls affected by armed conflicts and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of girls affected by armed conflict in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation assistance and reintegration processes;

"17. *Deplores* all the cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children, especially girls, in humanitarian crises, including those cases involving humanitarian workers and peacekeepers;

"18. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of girls affected by armed conflicts;

"19. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate and gender sensitive information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

"20. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

"21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in country programmes of cooperation in accordance with national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

"22. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt

regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

"23. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

"24. *Requests* Member States to ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention is paid to the girl child infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS;

"25. *Urges* Member States to dramatically increase leadership and resources at all levels, particularly in the education and health sectors, to give young people, especially the girl child, the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to prevent HIV;

"26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its 62nd session on the implementation of the present resolution using information provided by Member States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, with a view to assessing the impact of the present resolution on the lives of girls worldwide."

9. At the 41st meeting, on 15 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/60/L.18/Rev.1) submitted by Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe, joined by Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Croatia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Grenada, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Thailand. Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Palau, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Switzerland, Timor-Leste and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Namibia on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.18/Rev.1 as follows:

(a) In the third preambular paragraph, the words "and other" were inserted after the words "*Recalling* all human rights";

(b) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "and the outcome documents of the five-year reviews of the implementation of", which appeared after the words "twenty-first century", were deleted;

(c) In the tenth preambular paragraph the word "rape" was inserted after the words "female infanticide", and the words "incidence of fistula" were replaced by the words "forced marriage";

(d) The thirteenth preambular paragraph which read:

"*Noting with concern* that the AIDS epidemic is affecting women and girls in increasing numbers",

was deleted;

(e) In the fourteenth preambular paragraph the word "HIV" was replaced by the word "HIV/AIDS";

(f) Operative paragraph 9, which read:

"9. *Urges* Governments to encourage men and boys to work with women and girls in the design of policies and programmes for men and boys aimed at gender equality and to foster the involvement of men and boys in gender mainstreaming efforts in order to ensure the improved design of all policies and programmes",

was deleted and the remaining paragraphs were renumbered accordingly;

(g) In operative paragraph 9 (former paragraph 10), the words "and acts of paedophilia" were deleted;

(h) In operative paragraph 10 (former paragraph 11), the word "Rapporteur" was replaced by the word "Rapporteurs" and the words "and on trafficking in persons, especially women and children" were added;

(i) In operative paragraph 15 (former paragraph 16), the words "and by post-conflict situations" were inserted after the words "by armed conflicts";

(j) In operative paragraph 23 (former paragraph 24), the words "particular attention is paid to the girl child infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS" were replaced by the words "particular attention and support is given to the girl child infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including adolescent mothers";

(k) In operative paragraph 24 (former paragraph 25), the word "HIV" was replaced by the word "HIV/AIDS".

12. Also at the 41st meeting, the representative of the United States of America, made a statement (see A/C.3/60/SR.41), during which he proposed amendments to operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.18/Rev.1, by which the words "by the States Parties" would be inserted after the word "implementation" and the words "as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments" would be deleted.

13. At the same meeting, the representative of Namibia, on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution, requested a recorded vote on the amendments proposed to operative paragraph 1.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary made a statement (see A/C.3/60/SR.41).

15. Also at the 41st meeting, amendments proposed by the United States were rejected by a recorded vote of 2 to 157, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Singapore, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Qatar, Saudi Arabia.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.18/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 46, draft resolution I).

[1] Subsequently, the delegation of Israel indicated that, had it been present during the vote, it would have voted against, and the delegation of Qatar indicated that it had intended to vote against.

17. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Namibia and the United States of America (see A/C.3/60/SR.41).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.19

18. At the 21st meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, China, the Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine, subsequently joined by Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Namibia, Qatar, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The situation of and assistance to Palestinian children" (A/C.3/60/L.19), which read as follows:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Bearing in mind* the conclusion by the International Court of Justice, in its Advisory Opinion of 9 July 2004, that the Convention on the Rights of the Child is applicable within the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

"*Recalling* the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,

"*Recalling also* the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh special session,

"*Recalling further* the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

"*Noting with serious concern* that the Palestinian children under Israeli occupation remain deprived of many basic rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Concerned* about the continued severe deterioration of the situation of Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the severely detrimental impact of the continuing Israeli assaults and sieges on Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, resulting in the dire humanitarian crisis affecting the safety and well-being of Palestinian children,

"*Concerned also* about the severely detrimental impact being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime, on the socio-economic conditions of Palestinian children

and their families and on the enjoyment by Palestinian children of their rights to education, to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing and housing, to health and to be free from hunger, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

"*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety and well-being of all children in the whole Middle East region,

"*Expressing its condemnation* of all acts of violence, resulting in extensive loss of human life and injuries, including among Palestinian children,

"*Deeply concerned* about the negative consequences, including health and psychological consequences, of the Israeli military actions on the present and future well-being of Palestinian children,

"1. *Stresses* the urgent need for Palestinian children to live a normal life free from foreign occupation, destruction and fear in their own State;

"2. *Demands*, in the meanwhile, that Israel, the occupying Power, respect relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, in order to ensure the well-being and protection of Palestinian children and their families;

"3. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions."

19. At the 45th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

20. At the same meeting, the observer for Palestine made a statement, during which she withdrew draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.19 on behalf of the sponsors (see A/C.3/60/SR.45).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22 and Rev.1 and amendments contained in document A/C.3/60/L.69

21. At the 23rd meeting, on 25 October, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), subsequently joined by Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cameroon, Monaco, Morocco, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Rights of the child" (A/C.3/60/L.22), which read as follows:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which is resolution 59/261 of 23 December 2004, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/44 of 19 April 2005,

"*Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention, as well as other human rights instruments,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled 'A World Fit for Children', the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, also entitled 'Global Crisis — Global Action', the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

"*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on children, and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the reports of the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children,

"*Reaffirming* that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

"*Recognizing* the importance of incorporating a child-protection perspective across the human rights agenda, as highlighted in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Profoundly concerned* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions in an increasingly globalized economic environment, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, violence, abuse, exploitation, trafficking in children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

"*Underlining* the need to mainstream a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children and recognizing the child as a rights holder in all policies and programmes relating to children,

"**I. Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto**

"1. *Reaffirms* that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interest of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents;

"2. *Urges once again* States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a matter of priority, and, concerned about the great number of reservations to the Convention, urges States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and to consider reviewing other reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

"3. *Also urges* States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

"4. *Calls upon* States parties to implement the Convention and its Optional Protocols fully by, inter alia, putting in place effective national legislation, policies and action plans, strengthening relevant governmental structures for children and ensuring adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for professional groups working with and for children;

"5. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations on implementation of the Convention;

"6. *Requests* all relevant organs of the United Nations system and United Nations mechanisms regularly and systematically to incorporate a strong child rights perspective throughout all activities in the fulfilment of their mandates, as well as to ensure that their staff are trained in child rights matters, and calls upon States to cooperate closely with all these mechanisms, in particular the special rapporteurs and special representatives of the United Nations system;

"7. *Encourages* States to strengthen their national statistical capacities and to use statistics disaggregated, inter alia, by age, gender and other relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to develop and assess social policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

"II. Promotion and protection of the rights of the child

"*Registration, family relations and adoption*

"8. *Urges once again* all States to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligation under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to preserve the child's identity, including nationality and family relations, as recognized by law, to allow for the registration of the child immediately after birth, to ensure that registration procedures are simple, expeditious and effective and provided at minimal cost and to raise awareness of the importance of birth registration at the national, regional and local levels;

"9. *Encourages* States to adopt and enforce laws and improve the implementation of policies and programmes to protect children growing up

without parents or caregivers, recognizing that, where alternative care is necessary, family- and community-based care should be promoted over placement in institutions;

"10. *Calls upon* States to address cases of international parental or familial child abduction, and encourages States to engage in multilateral and bilateral cooperation to resolve these cases, preferably by accession to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, and to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention and, in this respect, to pay particular attention to cases of international abduction of children by a parent and or by other relatives;

"11. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and all adoptions that are not in the best interests of the child;

"Economic and social well-being of children

"12. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, and, inter alia, to:

"(a) Cooperate, support and participate in global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, are realized within their time framework, reaffirming that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

"(b) Take all necessary measures to ensure the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to develop sustainable health and social services systems, ensuring access to such systems and services without discrimination, paying particular attention to adequate food and nutrition and assigning priority to activities and programmes aimed at preventing addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco, and the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants;

"(c) Recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, and making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion;

"(d) Design and implement programmes to provide social services and support to pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers, in particular through enabling them to continue and complete their education;

"*Violence against children*

"13. *Urges* States:

"(a) To take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, including physical, mental and sexual violence, torture, child abuse and exploitation, domestic violence, trafficking in children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism and abuse by police, other law enforcement authorities and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions;

"(b) To investigate and prosecute cases of torture and other forms of violence against children and to punish the perpetrators;

"(c) To strengthen efforts to protect children from gang-related violence, in particular through a comprehensive approach to this phenomenon;

"(d) To end impunity for perpetrators of crimes committed against children, recognizing in this regard the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a way to prevent violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular when children are victims of serious crimes, including the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, to bring perpetrators of such crimes to justice and not grant amnesties for these crimes and to strengthen international cooperation towards the goal of ending impunity;

"(e) To take measures to protect schoolchildren from violence, injury or abuse, including sexual abuse and intimidation or maltreatment in schools, to establish complaint mechanisms that are age appropriate and accessible to children and to undertake thorough and prompt investigations of all acts of violence and discrimination;

"(f) To take measures to eliminate the use of corporal punishment in schools;

"(g) To condemn the abduction of children, particularly extortive abduction and abduction in situations of armed conflict, to take all appropriate measures to secure the unconditional release, rehabilitation, reintegration and reunification with their families of all abducted children to bring the perpetrators to justice and, in this regard, to request international organizations to cooperate with national authorities;

"*Non-discrimination*

"14. *Calls upon* all States to ensure the enjoyment by children of all their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind;

"15. *Notes with concern* the large number of children, particularly girls and children belonging to minorities, who are among the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interest of the child and respect for his or her views, in programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls

upon States to provide special support and ensure equal access to services for all children;

"16. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures, including legal reforms where appropriate, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, marriages without the free and full consent of the intending spouses, early marriages and forced sterilization, by enacting and enforcing legislation and by formulating, where appropriate, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls;

"Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

"17. *Calls upon* all States to prevent violations of the rights of children working and/or living on the street, including discrimination, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary executions, torture and all kinds of violence and exploitation, to bring the perpetrators to justice, to adopt and implement policies for the protection, social and psychosocial rehabilitation and reintegration of those children and to adopt economic, social and educational strategies to address the problems of children living or working on the street;

"18. *Calls upon* States to protect refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, in particular those who are unaccompanied, who are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as recruitment, sexual violence and exploitation, to pay particular attention to programmes for voluntary repatriation and, wherever possible, local integration and resettlement, to give priority to family tracing and family reunification and, where appropriate, to cooperate with international humanitarian and refugee organizations, including by facilitating their work;

"19. *Also calls upon* States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services and education of good quality and to ensure that children belonging to minorities, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance;

"20. *Further calls upon* States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities in both the public and the private spheres, including access to good quality education and health care and protection from violence, abuse and neglect, and to develop and, where it already exists, to enforce legislation to prohibit discrimination against them to ensure their dignity, promote their self-reliance and facilitate their active participation and integration in the community, taking into account the particularly difficult situation of children with disabilities living in poverty;

"21. *Calls upon* States to protect the inheritance and property rights of orphans in law and in practice, with particular attention to underlying gender-based discrimination that may interfere with the fulfilment of these rights;

"22. *Also calls upon* States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour, to promote education as a key strategy in this regard, including the creation of vocational training and apprenticeship programmes and the integration of working children into the formal education system and to examine and devise economic policies, where necessary, in cooperation with the international community, that address factors contributing to these forms of child labour;

"23. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization;

"24. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those States in which the death penalty has not been abolished:

"(a) To abolish by law, as soon as possible, the death penalty for those below the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of the offence;

"(b) To comply with their obligations as assumed under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

"(c) To keep in mind the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty and the guarantees set out in United Nations safeguards adopted by the Economic and Social Council;

"25. *Also calls upon* all States to ensure that no child in detention is sentenced to forced labour or corporal punishment or deprived of access to and provision of health-care services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, education, basic instruction and vocational training;

"Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

"26. *Calls upon* all States:

"(a) To criminalize and penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including all acts of paedophilia, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child pornography and child prostitution, child sex tourism, trafficking in children, the sale of children and their organs and the use of the Internet for these purposes, and to take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

"(b) To ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, whether in the country in which the crime was committed, in the country of which the offender is a national or resident, in the country of which the victim is a national or on any other basis permitted under domestic law, and, for these purposes, to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings;

"(c) To increase cooperation at all levels to prevent and dismantle networks trafficking in children and their organs and, for those States that have not yet done so, to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

"(d) In cases of trafficking in children, the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to address effectively the needs of victims, including their safety and protection, physical and psychological recovery and full reintegration into society, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance;

"(e) To combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through the adoption, effective application and enforcement of preventive, rehabilitative and punitive measures targeting customers or individuals who sexually exploit or sexually abuse children, as well as by ensuring public awareness;

"(f) To contribute to the elimination of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography by adopting a holistic approach, addressing the contributing factors, including underdevelopment, poverty, economic disparities, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctional families, lack of education, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, criminal or irresponsible adult sexual behaviour, child sex tourism, organized crime, harmful traditional practices, armed conflicts and trafficking in children;

"**Children affected by armed conflict**

"27. *Strongly condemns* any recruitment or use of children in armed conflict contrary to international law, and urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged in such practices to end them;

"28. *Reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights in promoting and protecting the rights and welfare of children;

"29. *Calls upon* States:

"(a) When ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the national armed forces from that set out in article 38, paragraph 3, of the Convention, bearing in mind that under the Convention persons under 18 years of age are entitled to special protection, and to adopt safeguards to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced;

"(b) To take all feasible measures to ensure the demobilization and effective disarmament of children used in armed conflicts and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, in particular through educational measures, taking into account the rights and the specific needs and capacities of girls;

"(c) To protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and international humanitarian law, and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

"(d) To take all feasible measures, in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights law, as a matter of priority, to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, as distinct from the armed forces of a State, including the adoption of legal measures necessary to prohibit and criminalize such practices;

"30. *Welcomes* the adoption of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on the protection of children affected by armed conflict and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism called for in that resolution, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level;

"31. *Recognizes* the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in paragraphs 35 to 37 of General Assembly resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, and recommends that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative for a further period of three years;

"32. *Recalls* the recommendation that the Special Representative foster international cooperation to ensure respect for children's rights in situations of armed conflict and contribute to the coordination of efforts by Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, as well as the request to Governments and relevant United Nations bodies to cooperate with the Special Representative;

"III. Children affected by HIV/AIDS

"33. *Acknowledges* that prevention, care, support and the treatment for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combat the epidemic, reaffirms that the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all is an essential element in the global response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and reaffirms also the importance of the elimination of all forms of discrimination against people living with or at risk of HIV/AIDS, including those most vulnerable;

"34. *Calls upon* States:

"(a) To ensure universal access to comprehensive information related to HIV/AIDS prevention by 2010 through education, life skills training for adolescents and the use of child-targeted media and to ensure that this information is relevant, age-appropriate and timely, engaging children, their parents or caregivers in its development and recognizing children as agents of change to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

"(b) To support adolescents to be able to deal positively and responsibly with their sexuality in order to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS infection, including to support adolescent girls' ability to protect themselves from unsafe sex, and to implement measures to increase the capacity of adolescents to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS, through, inter alia, the provision of health care, including for sexual and reproductive health, and through prevention education that promotes gender equality;

"(c) To put in place strategies, policies and programmes that identify and begin to address those factors that make individuals particularly vulnerable to HIV infection, in order to complement prevention programmes that address activities which place individuals at risk of HIV infection, such as risky and unsafe sexual behaviour and injecting drug use;

"(d) To ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention is paid to girls, deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls, that the majority of new HIV infections occur among young people and that unequal legal, economic and social status and violence against girls increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS;

"(e) To take measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, including the provision of essential drugs, appropriate antenatal, delivery and post-partum care, voluntary counselling and testing services for pregnant women and their partners and support for mothers, such as counselling on infant feeding options;

"35. *Also calls upon* States:

"(a) To ensure full and equal access for children to voluntary, free and confidential counselling, testing and care, including low cost and effective medication for the treatment of AIDS and associated opportunistic infections, recognizing the need for youth-friendly services, and urges States to work with the pharmaceutical industry and other stakeholders to ensure the development and universal availability of child suitable medication and treatments;

"(b) To strengthen partnerships and international cooperation at the national, regional and international levels in order to offer infected and affected children medicines and related technology that are affordable, easy to use and readily available, recognizing that many developing countries may not have the financial or human resources capacity to mount an effective response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic;

"(c) To integrate all aspects of HIV and AIDS treatment and care into all health care, programmes and services;

"36. *Further calls upon* States to take effective measures to eliminate stigmatization and discrimination on the basis of the HIV or AIDS status, actual or presumed, of the child or parent and to ensure that HIV or AIDS status does not stand in the way of the enjoyment by the child of all human rights;

"37. *Calls upon* States to make suitable provision for children affected by HIV/AIDS who can no longer live with their parents to retain links with their wider family and community, urges all States to sign the United Nations Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Living in a World with HIV and AIDS and to implement its key strategies, inter alia, by adopting and implementing, as an integral part of their comprehensive national planning and budgeting processes, national action plans for the protection and care of orphans and vulnerable children, and requests donors, the United Nations system and civil society to support their efforts;

"38. *Urges* donors:

"(a) To ensure a successful replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as the HIV/AIDS component of the work programmes of the agencies and programmes of the United Nations system engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and notes that a major part of the international HIV and AIDS financing gap relates to children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS;

"(b) To improve the effectiveness of their programmes through better alignment and elimination of duplication, and calls upon donors and the United Nations system to take forward the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors;

"**Follow-up**

"39. *Decides*:

"(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues contained in the present resolution;

"(b) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

"(c) To request the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children to present his final report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

"(d) To reiterate its invitation to the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

"(e) To pay particular attention to the rights of children affected by HIV and AIDS at its special session on HIV and AIDS in 2006;

"(f) To continue its consideration of this question at its sixty-first session under the item entitled 'Promotion and protection of the rights of children', focusing section III on 'Children and poverty'."

22. At the 44th meeting, on 18 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22, as well as Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Iceland, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. Subsequently, Algeria, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritania, Mozambique, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uzbekistan and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

23. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.3/60/L.66), which it was informed applied also to revised draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1.

24. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Singapore introduced amendments (A/C.3/60/L.69) to draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1, which read:

"1. After operative subparagraph 15 (c), insert a new subparagraph reading:

'Take all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity.'

"2. In operative paragraph 15 (d), replace the word 'eliminate' with the words 'strictly regulate'.

"3. In operative paragraph 27, replace the words 'in particular those States in which the death penalty has not been abolished' with the words 'that have not done so'.

"4. In operative paragraph 28, replace the words 'corporal punishment' with the words 'subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment'",

and requested a separate vote on each amendment.

25. Also at the 44th meeting, the representatives of Singapore, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Uruguay made statements (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

26. At the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.3/60/L.69.

27. The amendment proposed in paragraph 1 was rejected by a recorded vote of 111 to 39, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Viet Nam.

Against:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia.

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe.

28. The amendment proposed in paragraph 2 was rejected by a recorded vote of 119 to 23, with 19 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Iraq, Jamaica, Malaysia, Myanmar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, United States of America.

Against:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg,

Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe.

29. The amendment proposed in paragraph 3 was rejected by a recorded vote of 106 to 36, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Guinea, Haiti, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Zambia.

30. The representative of Barbados made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

31. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

32. Before the vote on the amendment proposed in paragraph 4, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and India (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

33. The amendment proposed in paragraph 4 was rejected by a recorded vote of 116 to 23, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Oman, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Belize, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Zambia.

34. Also at the 44th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Cuba, India, Benin, Norway, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Sierra Leone, Singapore and Uganda (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

35. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Japan, the Committee proceeded to vote on operative paragraph 35 of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1, which was retained by a recorded vote of 163 to 3. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Japan, Uganda, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

36. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Singapore, the Committee proceeded to separate votes on operative paragraphs 15 (d), 27 and 28 of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1.

37. Operative paragraph 15 (d) was retained by a recorded vote of 125 to 17, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte

d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Malaysia, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Belize, Bhutan, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Uganda, United Arab Emirates.

38. Operative paragraph 27 was retained by a recorded vote of 109 to 28, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Against:

Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Dominica, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United States of America, Zimbabwe

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Guinea, Haiti, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Mali, Niger, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, United Arab Emirates, Zambia

39. Operative paragraph 28 was retained by a recorded vote of 123 to 14 with 20 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

Against:

Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Dominica, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Malaysia, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Bhutan, China, Guinea, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Zambia

40. Also at the 44th meeting, the representative of the United States of America orally proposed amendments to draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1, by which:

(a) The second preambular paragraph would read:

"*Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, its Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol contain a comprehensive set of international legal standards for the protection and well-being of children, and reaffirming that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children";

(b) Operative paragraph 2 would read:

"*Urges* States that have not yet done so to consider as a matter of priority signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, and urges States parties to implement them fully, while stressing that the implementation of the Convention and its Optional Protocols and the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children and the special session of the General Assembly on children are mutually reinforcing";

(c) In operative paragraph 4, the word "parties" would be inserted after the words "*and* calls upon all States";

(d) In operative paragraph 7, the words "*Once again urges* all States" would be replaced by the words "*Urges again* all States parties" or, alternatively, the words "to comply with their obligation under the Convention on the Rights of the Child." would be deleted;

(e) In operative paragraph 9, the word "enforceable" would be inserted before the words "means of access";

(f) In operative paragraph 10, the words "accession to" would be replaced by the words "access to or ratification of and full compliance with", the words "enforce and" would be inserted before the word "facilitate" and the word "habitually" would be inserted before the words "resided immediately";

(g) Operative paragraph 16 would be deleted;

(h) In operative paragraph 33 (c), the words "and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court" would be deleted;

(i) Operative paragraph 35 would be deleted or, alternatively, amended by inserting, before the words "extend the mandate of the Special Representative", the words "exclusively by means of voluntary contributions".

41. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the representative of the United States of America withdrew the oral amendments proposed to the draft resolution (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

42. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of India, Uruguay, Egypt, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States of America made statements (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

43. Also at the 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.22/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 173 to 1, with 1 abstention (see para. 46, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Nauru.

44. At the same meeting, the representative of Sierra Leone made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

45. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Barbados (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Caribbean Community) (see A/C.3/60/SR.44).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

46. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/156 of 22 December 2003 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[1] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[2]

Recalling all human rights and other instruments relevant to the rights of the child, in particular the girl child, including the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[3] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[4]

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,[5] and the commitments relevant to the girl child as contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted on 16 September 2005,[6]

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[7] and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, entitled "Global Crisis — Global Action",[8]

Reaffirming further all other relevant outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences relevant to the girl child, as well as their five- and ten-year reviews, including the Beijing Declaration[9] and Platform for Action[10] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[3] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[4] Resolution 55/25, annex II.
[5] See resolution 55/2.
[6] See resolution 60/1.
[7] Resolution S-27/2, annex.
[8] Resolution S-26/2, annex.
[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[10] Ibid., annex II.

development and peace for the twenty-first century",[11] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[12] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[13] and welcoming the declaration adopted on 4 March 2005 by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session,[14]

Reaffirming the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[15]

Recognizing the efforts of the international community to strengthen the standards for combating sexual abuse and exploitation, and in this regard taking note of the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse[16] and other policies and codes of conduct developed by the United Nations system to prevent and address such incidents,

Recognizing also the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, rape, incest, early marriage, forced marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

Deeply concerned also that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and that their potential for full development is thus limited,

Concerned that the girl child has furthermore become the victim of rape, sexually transmitted diseases and increasingly of HIV, which have a serious impact on the quality of her life and leave her open to further discrimination, violence and neglect,

Emphasizing that increased access to education, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, for young people especially girls dramatically lowers their vulnerability to preventable diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS infection and sexually transmitted diseases,

Concerned by the increasing number of child-headed households, in particular those headed by orphan girls, including those orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic,

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[11] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[12] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[13] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7 and corrigendum* (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[15] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[16] ST/SGB/2003/13.

Deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to sexual and reproductive health care, including in the area of emergency obstetric care, causes high levels of fistula and maternal mortality and morbidity,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[1] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[17] and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[3]

3. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms;

4. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private-sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum,[15] in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[10] as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[18] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

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[17] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[18] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

7. *Also urges* States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[11] and of the twenty-seventh special session on children;[7]

8. *Urges* all States to promote gender equality and equal access to basic social services, such as education, nutrition, health care, including sexual and reproductive health care, vaccinations and protection from diseases representing the major causes of mortality, and to mainstream a gender perspective in all development policies and programmes;

9. *Also urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced labour, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

10. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

11. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child, and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

12. *Urges* States to ensure that the right of children to express themselves and participate in all matters affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity, is fully and equally enjoyed by girls;

13. *Recognizes* that a considerable number of children, including orphans, children living on the street, internally displaced and refugee children, children affected by trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation and children who are incarcerated, live without parental support, and in this regard urges States to take special measures to support such children and the institutions, facilities and services that care for them, and to build and strengthen children's abilities to protect themselves;

14. *Urges* States to take appropriate measures to address the needs of orphan girls by implementing national policies and strategies to build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive

environment for orphans and girls and boys infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including by providing appropriate counselling and psychosocial support, and ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition and health and social services on an equal basis with other children; and to protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance;

15. *Also urges* States to take special measures for the protection of girls affected by armed conflicts and by post-conflict situations and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of girls affected by armed conflicts in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation assistance and reintegration processes;

16. *Deplores* all the cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children, especially girls, in humanitarian crises, including those cases involving humanitarian workers and peacekeepers;

17. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of girls affected by armed conflicts;

18. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate and gender-sensitive information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

19. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in country programmes of cooperation in accordance with national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

21. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt

regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

22. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

23. *Requests* Member States to ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention and support is given to the girl child infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including adolescent mothers;

24. *Urges* Member States to dramatically increase resources at all levels, particularly in the education and health sectors, to enable young people, especially girls, to gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills that they need to prevent HIV/AIDS and to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, including an emphasis on fistula, using information provided by Member States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, with a view to assessing the impact of the present resolution on the well-being of the girl child.

Draft resolution II
Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which is resolution 59/261 of 23 December 2004, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/44 of 19 April 2005,[1]

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention,[3] as well as other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[4] the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[6] and the outcome document of the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, entitled "Global Crisis — Global Action",[7]

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly[8] and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues raised in Assembly resolution 59/261,[9] as well as the reports of the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict[10] and the Independent Expert for the United Nations study on violence against children,[11]

Reaffirming that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

Recognizing the importance of incorporating a child-protection perspective across the human rights agenda, as highlighted in the outcome of the 2005 World Summit,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, violence, abuse, exploitation, trafficking in children and their organs, child prostitution, child

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* (E/2005/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[3] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[4] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[7] Resolution S/26/2, annex.

[8] A/60/207.

[9] A/60/175 and Corr.1.

[10] A/60/335.

[11] A/60/282.

pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Underlining the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children, and recognizing the child as a rights holder in all policies and programmes relating to children,

I
Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Reaffirms* that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents;

2. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the Optional Protocols thereto[3] as a matter of priority and to implement them fully by, inter alia, putting in place effective national legislation and policies;

3. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing other reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations on implementation of the Convention;

5. *Requests* all relevant organs of the United Nations system and United Nations mechanisms regularly and systematically to incorporate a strong child rights perspective throughout all activities in the fulfilment of their mandates, as well as to ensure that their staff are trained in child rights matters, and calls upon States to continue to cooperate closely with all these mechanisms, in particular the special rapporteurs and special representatives of the United Nations system;

6. *Encourages* States to strengthen their national statistical capacities and to use statistics disaggregated, inter alia, by age, gender and other relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to develop and assess social policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

II
Promotion and protection of the rights of the child

Registration, family relations and adoption

7. *Once again urges* all States to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] to preserve the child's identity, including nationality and family relations, as recognized by law, to allow for the registration of the child immediately after birth, to ensure that registration procedures are simple, expeditious and effective and provided at minimal cost and to raise awareness of the importance of birth registration at the national, regional and local levels;

8. *Encourages* States to adopt and enforce laws and improve the implementation of policies and programmes to protect children growing up without parents or caregivers, recognizing that, where alternative care is necessary, family- and community-based care should be promoted over placement in institutions;

9. *Calls upon* States to guarantee, to the extent consistent with the obligations of each State, the right of a child whose parents reside in different States to maintain, on a regular basis, save in exceptional circumstances, personal relations and direct contact with both parents by providing means of access and visitation in both States and by respecting the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of their children;

10. *Also calls upon* States to address and pay particular attention to cases of international parental or familial child abduction, and encourages States to engage in multilateral and bilateral cooperation to resolve these cases, preferably by accession to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction,[12] and to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention;

11. *Further calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and all adoptions that are not in the best interests of the child;

Economic and social well-being of children

12. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, inter alia, by:

(a) Cooperating, supporting and participating in global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all these levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] are realized within their time framework, reaffirming that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

(b) Taking all necessary measures to ensure the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and developing sustainable

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1343, No. 22514.

health systems and social services, ensuring access to such systems and services without discrimination, paying particular attention to adequate food and nutrition and assigning priority to activities and programmes aimed at preventing addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco, and the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants and by, inter alia, securing appropriate prenatal and post-natal care for mothers;

(c) Recognizing the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, as well as making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion;

(d) Designing and implementing programmes to provide social services and support to pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers, in particular by enabling them to continue and complete their education;

Violence against children

13. *Condemns* all forms of violence against children, including physical, mental and sexual violence, torture, child abuse and exploitation, hostage-taking, domestic violence, trafficking in or sale of children and their organs, paedophilia, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism as well as the increasing phenomenon of gang-related violence;

14. *Also condemns* the abduction of children, in particular extortive abduction and abduction of children in situations of armed conflict, including for the recruitment and use of children in armed conflicts, and urges States to take all appropriate measures to secure their unconditional release, rehabilitation, reintegration and reunification with their families;

15. *Urges* States:

(a) To strengthen efforts to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence through a comprehensive approach;

(b) To end impunity for perpetrators of crimes against children, investigate and prosecute all acts of violence and impose appropriate penalties;

(c) To protect children from abuse by government officials such as the police, law enforcement authorities and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions;

(d) To take measures to protect children from violence or abuse in schools, including sexual abuse and intimidation, maltreatment and bullying, to establish complaint mechanisms that are age- and gender-appropriate and accessible to children and to take measures to eliminate the use of corporal punishment in schools;

(e) To strengthen international cooperation and mutual assistance to end impunity for crimes against children;

16. *Recognizes* the contribution of the International Criminal Court in ending impunity for the most serious crimes against children, including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and calls upon States not to grant amnesties for such crimes;

Non-discrimination

17. *Calls upon* all States to ensure the enjoyment by children of all their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind;

18. *Notes with concern* the large number of children who are victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views, in programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls upon States to provide special support and ensure equal access to services for all children;

19. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures, including legal reforms where appropriate, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, marriage without the free and full consent of the intending spouses, early marriage and forced sterilization, by enacting and enforcing legislation and by formulating, where appropriate, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls;

20. *Also calls upon* States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities in both the public and the private spheres, including access to good quality education and health care and protection from violence, abuse and neglect, and to develop and, where it already exists, to enforce legislation to prohibit discrimination against them in order to ensure their inherent dignity, promote their self-reliance and facilitate their active participation and integration in the community, taking into account the particularly difficult situation of children with disabilities living in poverty;

Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

21. *Calls upon* all States to prevent violations of the rights of children working and/or living on the street, including discrimination, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary executions, torture, and all kinds of violence and exploitation, and to bring the perpetrators to justice, to adopt and implement policies for the protection, social and psychosocial rehabilitation and reintegration of those children and to adopt economic, social and educational strategies to address the problems of children working and/or living on the street;

22. *Also calls upon* all States to protect refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, in particular those who are unaccompanied, who are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as recruitment, sexual violence and exploitation, stressing the need for States as well as the international community to continue to pay more systematic and in-depth attention

to the special assistance, protection and development needs of those children through, inter alia, programmes aimed at rehabilitation and physical and psychological recovery, and to programmes for voluntary repatriation and, wherever possible, local integration and resettlement, to give priority to family tracing and family reunification and, where appropriate, to cooperate with international humanitarian and refugee organizations, including by facilitating their work;

23. *Further calls upon* all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services and education on an equal basis with others and to ensure that all such children, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance;

24. *Calls upon* all States to protect the inheritance and property rights of orphans in law and in practice, with particular attention to underlying gender-based discrimination, which may interfere with the fulfilment of these rights;

25. *Also calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour, to promote education as a key strategy in this regard, including the creation of vocational training and apprenticeship programmes and the integration of working children into the formal education system and to examine and devise economic policies, where necessary, in cooperation with the international community, that address factors contributing to these forms of child labour;

26. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization;

27. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those States in which the death penalty has not been abolished:

(a) To abolish by law, as soon as possible, the death penalty for those below the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of the offence;

(b) To comply with their obligations as assumed under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[a] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[c]

(c) To keep in mind the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty and the guarantees set out in United Nations safeguards adopted by the Economic and Social Council;

28. *Also calls upon* all States to ensure that no child in detention is sentenced to forced labour or corporal punishment or deprived of access to and provision of health-care services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, education, basic instruction and vocational training;

[c] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

29. *Encourages* States to promote actions, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance, for the social reintegration of children in difficult situations, considering, inter alia, views, skills and capacities that those children have developed in the conditions in which they lived and, where appropriate, with their meaningful participation;

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

30. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To criminalize and penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including all acts of paedophilia, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child pornography and child prostitution, child sex tourism, trafficking in children, the sale of children and their organs and the use of the Internet for these purposes, and to take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

(b) To ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country in which the crime was committed, in the country of which the offender is a national or resident, in the country of which the victim is a national or on any other basis permitted under domestic law, and for these purposes to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings;

(c) To increase cooperation at all levels to prevent and dismantle networks trafficking or selling children and their organs and, for those States that have not yet done so, to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[14]

(d) In cases of trafficking in children, the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to address effectively the needs of victims, including their safety and protection, physical and psychological recovery and full reintegration into society, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance;

(e) To combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through the adoption, effective application and enforcement of preventive, rehabilitative and punitive measures targeting customers of individuals who sexually exploit or sexually abuse children, as well as by ensuring public awareness;

(f) To contribute to the elimination of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography by adopting a holistic approach, addressing the contributing factors, including underdevelopment, poverty, economic disparities, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctional families, lack of education, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, criminal or irresponsible adult sexual behaviour, child sex tourism, organized crime, harmful traditional practices, armed conflicts and trafficking in children;

[14] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

Children affected by armed conflict

31. *Strongly condemns* any recruitment or use of children in armed conflict contrary to international law, as well as other violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict, and urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged in such practices to end them;

32. *Reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights for the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children, including children affected by armed conflict, and notes the increasing role played by the Security Council in ensuring protection for children affected by armed conflict;

33. *Calls upon* States:

(a) When ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[15] to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the national armed forces from that set out in article 38, paragraph 3, of the Convention, bearing in mind that under the Convention persons under 18 years of age are entitled to special protection, and to adopt safeguards to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced;

(b) To take all feasible measures to ensure the demobilization and effective disarmament of children used in armed conflicts and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, in particular through educational measures, taking into account the rights and the specific needs and capacities of girls;

(c) To protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[16] and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

(d) To take all necessary measures, in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights law, as a matter of priority, to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, as distinct from the armed forces of a State, including the adoption of policies that do not tolerate the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, and legal measures necessary to prohibit and criminalize such practices;

34. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on the protection of children affected by armed conflict and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism called for in that resolution, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level;

35. *Recognizes* the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in paragraphs 35 to 37 of General Assembly resolution 51/77 of

[15] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

12 December 1996, and, bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations system-wide response to children and armed conflict,[17] recommends that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative for a further period of three years;

36. *Recalls* the recommendation contained in resolution 51/77 that the Special Representative foster international cooperation to ensure respect for children's rights in situations of armed conflict and contribute to the coordination of efforts by Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, as well as the request to Governments and relevant United Nations bodies to cooperate with the Special Representative;

III
Children infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS

37. *Acknowledges* that prevention, care, support, including psychosocial support, and treatment for those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including children, are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combat the pandemic, reaffirms that the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all is an essential element in the global response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and reaffirms also the importance of the elimination of all forms of discrimination against people living with or at risk of HIV/AIDS, especially those most vulnerable;

38. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To ensure universal access to comprehensive information related to HIV/AIDS prevention by 2010 through education, life skills training for adolescents and the use of child-targeted media and to ensure that this information is relevant, gender- and age-appropriate and timely, engaging the meaningful participation of children and their parents or caregivers in its development and recognizing children as agents of change, to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

(b) To support adolescents to be able to deal positively and responsibly with their sexuality in order to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS infection and to implement measures to increase their capacity to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS, through, inter alia, the provision of health care, including for sexual and reproductive health, and through prevention education that promotes gender equality;

(c) To put in place strategies, policies and programmes that identify and address those factors that make individuals particularly vulnerable to HIV infection in order to complement prevention programmes that address activities that place individuals at risk of HIV infection, such as risky and unsafe sexual behaviour and injecting drug use;

(d) To ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention is paid to girls, deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls, that the majority of new HIV infections occur among young people and that unequal legal, economic and social status, negative or judgemental attitudes that limit the ability of girls to take preventive measures and violence against girls increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS;

[17] A/59/331.

(c) To take measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, including the provision of essential drugs, appropriate antenatal, delivery and post-partum care, voluntary and confidential counselling and testing services for pregnant women and their partners and support for mothers, such as counselling on infant feeding options and access to treatment, including antiretroviral treatment;

39. *Also calls upon* States:

(a) To ensure full and equal access for children to voluntary, free and confidential counselling, testing and care, including affordable and effective medication for the treatment of HIV and AIDS and associated opportunistic infections, recognizing the need for youth-friendly services, and urges States to work with the pharmaceutical industry and other stakeholders to ensure the development and universal availability of child-suitable medication and treatments;

(b) To strengthen partnerships and international cooperation at the national, regional and international levels in order to offer infected and affected children medicines and related technology which are affordable, easy to use and readily available, in supporting developing countries that may not have the financial or human resources capacity to mount an effective response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

(c) To integrate all aspects of HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support into all health-care programmes and services;

40. *Further calls upon* States to take effective measures to eliminate stigmatization and discrimination on the basis of the HIV or AIDS status, actual or presumed, of the child or parent and to ensure that HIV or AIDS status does not stand in the way of the enjoyment by the child of all human rights;

41. *Calls upon* States to make suitable provision for children affected by HIV/AIDS who can no longer live with their parents to retain links with their wider family and community, urges all States to implement the United Nations Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Living in a World with HIV and AIDS and its key strategies, inter alia, by adopting and implementing, as an integral part of their comprehensive national planning and budgeting processes, national action plans for the protection and care of orphans and vulnerable children, and requests donors, the United Nations system and civil society to support their efforts;

42. *Urges* donors:

(a) To ensure, by 2007, a complete and successful replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as the HIV/AIDS component of the work programmes of the agencies and programmes of the United Nations system engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and notes that a major part of the international HIV and AIDS financing gap relates to children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS;

(b) To improve the effectiveness of their programmes through better alignment and elimination of duplication, and calls upon donors and the United Nations system to take forward the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors;

Follow-up

43. *Decides*:

(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the issues contained in the present resolution;

(b) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

(c) To request the Independent Expert for the United Nations study on violence against children to present his final report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

(d) To reiterate its invitation to the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session as a way to enhance communication between the General Assembly and the Committee;

(e) To pay particular attention to the rights of children infected with and affected by HIV and AIDS at its special session on HIV and AIDS in 2006;

(f) To continue its consideration of this question at its sixty-first session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", focusing section III on "Children and poverty".